

Kentucky



Gazette.

"True to his charge—he comes, the Herald of a noisy world; News from all nations, lumbering at his back."

D. BRADFORD, Editor.

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MESSAGE

OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

*Fellow citizens of the Senate,
and of the House of Representatives:*

I regret that I cannot, on this occasion, congratulate you that the past year has been one of unalloyed prosperity. The ravages of fire and disease have painfully afflicted otherwise flourishing portions of our country; and serious embarrassments yet derange the trade of many of our cities. But, notwithstanding these adverse circumstances, that general prosperity which has been heretofore so bountifully bestowed upon us by the Author of all good, still continues to call for our warmest gratitude. Especially have we reason to rejoice in the exuberant harvests which have lavishly recompensed well-directed industry, and given to it that sure reward which is vainly sought in visionary speculations. I cannot indeed view, without peculiar satisfaction, the evidences afforded by the past season of the benefits that spring from the steady devotion of the husbandman to his honorable pursuit. No means of individual comfort is more certain, and no source of national prosperity is so sure. Nothing can compensate a people for a dependence upon others for the bread they eat; and that cheerful abundance on which the happiness of every one so much depends, is to be looked for nowhere with such sure reliance as in the industry of the agriculturist and the bounties of the earth.

With foreign countries, our relations exhibit the same favorable aspect which was presented in my last annual message, and afford continued proof of the wisdom of the pacific, just, and forbearing policy adopted by the first administration of the Federal Government, and pursued by its successors. The extraordinary powers vested in me by an act of Congress, for the defence of the country in an emergency, considered so far probable as to require that the Executive should possess ample means to meet it, have not been exerted. They have, therefore been attended with no other result than to increase, by the confidence thus reposed in me, my obligations to maintain, with religious exactness, the cardinal principles that govern our intercourse with other nations. Happily, in our pending questions with Great Britain, out of which this unusual grant of authority arose, nothing has occurred to require its exertion; and as it is about to return to the Legislature, I trust that no future necessity may call for its exercise by them, or its delegation to another department of the Government.

For the settlement of our Northeastern boundary, the proposition promised by Great Britain for a commission of exploration and survey, has been received, and a counter project, including also a provision for the certain and final adjustment of the limits in dispute, is now before the British Government for its consideration. A just regard to the delicate state of this question, and a proper respect for the natural impatience of the State of Maine, not less than a conviction that the negotiation has been already protracted longer than is prudent on the part of either Government, have led me to believe that the present favorable moment should on no account be suffered to pass without putting the question for ever at rest. I feel confident that the Government of her Britannic Majesty will take the same view of this subject, as I am persuaded it is governed by desires equally strong and sincere for the amicable termination of the controversy.

To the intrinsic difficulties of questions of boundary lines, especially those described in regions unoccupied, and but partially known, is to be added in our country the embarrassment necessarily arising out of our Constitution, by which the General Government is made the organ of negotiating, and deciding upon the particular interests of the States on whose frontiers these lines are to be traced.—To avoid another controversy in which a State Government might rightfully claim to have her wishes consulted, previously to the conclusion of conventional arrangements concerning jurisdiction or territory, I have heretofore thought it necessary to call the attention of the Government of Great Britain to another portion of our contentious dominion: of which the divisions still remains to be adjusted. I refer to the line from the entrance

of Lake Superior to the most northwestern point of the Lake of the Woods, stipulations for the settlement of which are to be found in the seventh article of the treaty of Ghent. The commissioners appointed under that article by the two Governments having differed in their opinions, made separate reports, according to its stipulations, upon the points of disagreement, and these differences are now to be submitted to the arbitration of some friendly sovereign or State. The disputed points should be settled, and the line designated, before the territorial government, of which it is one of the boundaries, takes its place in the Union as a State; and I rely upon the cordial co-operation of the British Government to effect that object.

There is every reason to believe that disturbances like those which lately agitated the neighboring British Provinces will not again prove the sources of border contentions, or interpose obstacles to the continuance of that good understanding which it is the mutual interest of Great Britain and the United States to preserve and maintain.

Within the Provinces themselves tranquility is restored, and on our frontier that misguided sympathy in favor of what was presumed to be a general effort in behalf of popular rights, and which in some instances misled a few of our more inexperienced citizens, has subsided into a rational conviction strongly opposed to all intermeddling with the internal affairs of our neighbors. The people of the United States feel, as it is hoped they always will, a warm solicitude for the success of all who are sincerely endeavoring to improve the political condition of mankind. This generous feeling they cherish towards the most distant nations; and it was natural, therefore, that it should be awakened with more than common warmth in behalf of their immediate neighbors. But it does not belong to their character as a community, to seek the gratification of those feelings in acts which violate their duty as citizens, endanger the peace of their country, and tend to bring upon it the stain of a violated faith towards foreign nations. If zealous to confer benefits on others, they appear for a moment to lose sight of the permanent obligations imposed upon them as citizens, they are seldom long misled. From all the information I receive, confirm, to some extent, by personal observation, I am satisfied that no one can now hope to engage in such enterprises without encountering public indignation, in addition to the severest penalties of the law.

Recent information also leads me to hope that the emigrants from her Majesty's Provinces, who have sought refuge within our boundaries, are disposed to become peaceable residents, and to abstain from all attempts to endanger the peace of that country which has afforded them an asylum. On a review of the occurrences on both sides of the line, it is satisfactory to reflect, that in almost every complaint against our country, the offence may be traced to emigrants from the Provinces who have sought refuge here. In the few instances in which they were aided by citizens of the United States, the acts of these misguided men were not only in direct contravention of the laws and well known wishes of their own Government, but met with the decided disapprobation of the people of the United States.

I regret to state the appearance of a different spirit among her Majesty's subjects in the Canadas. The sentiments of hostility to our people and institutions, which have been so frequently expressed there, and the disregard of our rights which have been manifested on some occasions, have, I am sorry to say, been applauded and encouraged by the people, and even by some of the subordinate local authorities, of the Provinces. The chief officers in Canada fortunately have not entertained the same feeling, and have probably prevented excesses that must have been fatal to the peace of the two countries.

I look forward anxiously to a period when all the transactions which have grown out of this condition of our affairs, and which have been made the subjects of complaint and remonstrance by the two Governments respectively, shall be fully examined, and the proper satisfaction given where it is due from either side.

Nothing has occurred to disturb the harmony of our intercourse with Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Naples, Portugal, Prussia, Russia, and Sweden. The internal state of Spain has sensibly improved, and a well-grounded hope exists that the return of peace will restore to the people of that country their former prosperity, and enable the Government to fulfil all its obligations at home and abroad. The Government of Portugal, I have the satisfaction to state, has paid in full the eleventh and last instalment due to our citizens for the claims embraced in the settlement made with it on the third of March, 1837.

I lay before you treaties of commerce negotiated with the kings of Sardinia and of the Netherlands, the ratifications of which have been exchanged since the adjournment of Congress. The liberal principles of these treaties will recommend them to your approbation. That with Sardinia is the first treaty of commerce formed by that kingdom, and it will,

trust, answer the expectations of the present sovereign, by aiding the development of the resources of his country, and stimulating the enterprise of his people. That with the Netherlands happily terminates a long existing subject of dispute, and removes from our future commercial intercourse, all apprehension of embarrassment. The king of the Netherlands has also, in further illustration of his character for justice, and of his desire to remove every cause of dissatisfaction, made compensation for an American vessel captured in 1800, by a French privateer, and carried into Curacao, where the proceeds were appropriated to the use of the colony, then, and for a short time after, under the dominion of Holland.

The death of the late Sultan has produced no alteration in our relations with Turkey.—Our newly appointed Minister Resident has reached Constantinople, and I have received assurances from the present Ruler, that the obligations of our treaty, and those of friendship, will be fulfilled by himself in the same spirit that actuated his illustrious father.

I regret to be obliged to inform you that no convention for the settlement of the claims of our citizens upon Mexico has yet been ratified by the Government of that country. The first convention formed for that purpose was not presented by the President of Mexico for the approval of its Congress, from a belief that the king of Prussia, the arbitrator in case of disagreement in the joint commission to be appointed by the United States and Mexico, would not consent to take upon himself that friendly office. Although not entirely satisfied with the course pursued by Mexico, I felt no hesitation in receiving in the most conciliatory spirit the explanation offered, and also cheerfully consented to a new convention, in order to arrange the payments proposed to be made to our citizens, in a manner which, while equally just to them, was deemed less onerous and inconvenient to the Mexican Government. Relying confidently upon the intentions of that Government, Mr. Ellis was directed to repair to Mexico, and diplomatic intercourse has been resumed between the two countries. The new convention has, he informs us, been recently submitted by the President of that Republic to its Congress, under circumstances which promise a speedy ratification; a result which I cannot allow myself to doubt.

Instructions have been given to the Commissioner of the United States, under our Convention with Texas, for the demarcation of the line which separates us from that Republic.—The commissioners of both Governments met in New Orleans in August last. The joint commission was organized, and adjourned to convene at the same place on the twelfth of October. It is presumed to be now in the performance of its duties.

The new Government of Texas has shown a desire to cultivate friendly relations with us, by a prompt reparation for injuries complained of in the cases of two vessels of the United States.

With Central America a convention has been concluded for the renewal of its former treaty with the United States. This was not ratified before the departure of our late Charge d'Affaires from that country, and the copy of it brought by him was not received before the adjournment of the Senate at the last session. In the meanwhile, the period limited for the exchange of ratifications having expired, I deemed it expedient, in consequence of the death of the Charge d'Affaires, to send a special agent to Central America, to close the affairs of our mission there, and to arrange with the Government an extension of the time for the exchange of ratifications.

The commission created by the States which formerly composed the Republic of Colombia, for adjusting the claims against that Government, has, by a very unexpected construction of the treaty under which it acts, decided that no provision was made for those claims of citizens of the United States which arose from captures by Colombian privateers, and were adjudged against the claimants in the judicial tribunals. The decision will compel the United States to apply to the several Governments formerly united for redress. With all these—New Grenada, Venezuela, and Ecuador—a perfectly good understanding exists. Our treaty with Venezuela is faithfully carried into execution; and that country, in the enjoyment of tranquillity, is gradually advancing in prosperity under the guidance of its present distinguished President, General Paez. With Ecuador, a liberal commercial convention has lately been concluded which will be transmitted to the Senate at an early day.

With the great American empire of Brazil, our relations continue unchanged, as does our friendly intercourse with the other governments of South America—the Argentine Republic, and the Republics of Uruguay, Chili, Peru, and Bolivia. The dissolution of the Peru Bolivian Confederation may occasion some temporary inconvenience to our citizens in that quarter, but the obligations on the new governments which have arisen out of that confederation to observe its treaty stipulations, will no doubt be soon understood, and it is presumed that no indisposition will exist to fulfil those which it contracted with the United States.

The financial operations of the Government during the present year have, I am happy to say, been very successful. The difficulties under which the Treasury Department has labored from known defects in the existing laws relative to the safe keeping of the public moneys, aggravated by the suspension of specie payments by several of the banks holding public deposits, or indebted to public officers for notes received in payment of public dues, have been surmounted to a very gratifying extent. The large current expenditures have been punctually met, and the faith of the Government in all its pecuniary concerns has been scrupulously maintained.

The nineteen millions of Treasury notes authorized by the act of Congress of 1837, and the modifications thereof, with a view to the indulgence of merchants on their duty bonds, and of the deposit banks in the payment of public moneys held by them, have been so punctually redeemed as to leave less than the original ten millions outstanding at any one time, and the whole amount unredeemed now falls short of three millions. Of these the chief portion is not due till next year, and the whole would have been already extinguished could the Treasury have realized the payments due to it from the banks. If those due from them during the next year shall be punctually made, and if Congress shall keep the appropriations within the estimates, there is every reason to believe that all the outstanding Treasury notes can be redeemed, and the ordinary expenses defrayed, without imposing on the people any additional burden, either of loans or increased taxes.

To avoid this, and to keep the expenditures within reasonable bounds, is a duty, second only in importance to the preservation of our national character, and the protection of our citizens in their political and civil rights. The creation, in time of peace, of a debt likely to become permanent, is an evil for which there is no equivalent. The rapidity with which many of the States are apparently approaching to this condition admonishes us of our own duties, in a manner too impressive to be disregarded. One, not the least important, is to keep the Federal Government always in a condition to discharge, with ease and vigor, its highest functions, should their exercise be required by any sudden conjuncture of public affairs—a condition to which we are always exposed, and which may occur when it is least expected. To this end, it is indispensable that its finances should be untrammelled, and its resources, as far as practicable, unimpaired. No circumstance could present greater obstacles to the accomplishment of these vitally important objects, than the creation of an onerous national debt. Our own experience, and also that of other nations, have demonstrated the unavoidable and fearful rapidity with which a public debt is increased, when the Government has once surrendered itself to the ruinous practice of supplying its supposed necessities by new loans.—The struggle, therefore, on our part, to be successful, must be made at the threshold. To make our efforts effective, severe economy is necessary. This is the surest provision for the national welfare; and it is, at the same time, the best preservative on which our institutions rest. Simplicity and economy in the affairs of State have never failed to chasten and invigorate republican principles, while these have been as surely subverted by national prodigality, under whatever specious pretexts it may have been introduced or fostered.

These considerations cannot be lost upon a people who have never been inattentive to the effect of their policy upon the institutions they have created for themselves; but at the present moment their force is augmented by the necessity which a decreasing revenue must impose. The check lately given to importations of articles subject to duties, the derangements in the operations of internal trade and, especially, the reduction gradually taking place in our tariff of duties, all tend materially to the lessening our receipts; indeed it is probable that the diminution resulting from the last cause alone will not fall short of five millions of dollars in the year 1842, as the final reduction of all duties to 20 per cent. then takes effect. The whole revenue then accruing from the customs and from the sales of public lands, if not more, will undoubtedly be wanted to defray the necessary expenses of the Government under the most prudent administration of its affairs. These are circumstances that impose the necessity of rigid economy and require its prompt and constant exercise. With the Legislature rests the power and duty of so adjusting the public expenditure as to promote this end. By the provisions of the Constitution it is only in consequence of an appropriation made by law that money can be drawn from the Treasury; no instance has occurred since the establishment of the Government in which the Executive, though a component part of the legislative power, has interposed an objection to an appropriation bill on the sole ground of its extravagance. His duty in this respect has been considered fulfilled by requesting such appropriations only as the public service may be reasonably expected to require. In the present earnest direction of the public mind towards this subject, both the Executive and the Legislature have evidence of the strict responsibility to which they will be held; and while I am conscious of my own anxious efforts to perform, with fidelity, this portion of my public function, it is a satisfaction to me to be able to count on a cordial co-operation from you.

At the time I entered upon my present duties, our ordinary disbursements—without including those on account of the public debt, the post office, and the trust funds in charge of the Government—had been largely increased by appropriations for the removal of the Indians, for repelling Indian hostilities, and for other less urgent expenses which grew out of an overflowing Treasury. Independent of

the redemption of the public debt and trusts, the gross expenditures of seventeen and eighteen millions in 1834 and 1835 had by these causes, swelled to twenty-nine millions in 1836; and the appropriations for 1837, made previously to the 4th of March, caused the expenditure to rise to the very large amount of thirty-three millions. We were enabled during the year 1838, notwithstanding the continuance of our Indian embarrassments, somewhat to reduce this amount; and that for the present year, 1839, will not in all probability exceed twenty-six millions, or six millions less than it was last year. With a determination so far as depends on me to continue this reduction, I have directed the estimates for 1840 to be subjected to the severest scrutiny, and to be limited to the absolute requirements of the public service. They will be found less than the expenditures of 1839 by over five millions of dollars.

The precautionary measures which will be recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury, to protect faithfully the public credit under the fluctuations and contingencies to which our receipts and expenditures are exposed, and especially in a commercial crisis like the present, are commended to your early attention.

On a former occasion your attention was invited to various considerations in support of a pre-emption law in behalf of the settlers on the public lands; and also of a law graduating the prices for such lands as had long been in the market unsold, in consequence of their inferior quality. The execution of the act which was passed on the first subject has been attended with the happiest consequences, in quieting titles, and securing improvements to the industrious; and it has also, to a very gratifying extent, been exempt from frauds which were practiced under previous pre-emption laws. It has, at the same time, as we anticipated, contributed liberally during the present year to the receipts of the Treasury.

The passage of a graduation law, with the guards before recommended, would also, I am persuaded, add considerably to the revenue for several years, and prove in other respects just and beneficial.

Your early considerations of the subject, is therefore, once more earnestly requested.

The present condition of the defenses of our principal seaports and Navy yards, as represented by the accompanying report of the Secretary of War, calls for the early and serious attention of Congress; and, as connecting itself intimately with this subject, I cannot recommend too strongly to your consideration the plan submitted by that officer for the organization of the militia of the United States.

In conformity with the expressed wishes of Congress, an attempt was made in the spring to terminate the Florida war by negotiation. It is to be regretted that these humane intentions should have been frustrated, and that the effort to bring these unhappy difficulties to a satisfactory conclusion should have failed. But after entering into solemn engagements with the Commanding General, the Indians, without any provocation, recommenced their acts of treachery and murder. The renewal of hostilities in that Territory renders it necessary that I should recommend to your favorable consideration the plan which will be submitted to you by the Secretary of War, in order to enable that department to conduct them to a successful issue.

Having had an opportunity of personally inspecting a portion of the troops during the last summer, it gives me pleasure to bear testimony to the success of the effort to improve their discipline, by keeping them together in as large bodies as the nature of our service will permit. I recommend, therefore, that commodious and permanent barracks be constructed at the several posts designated by the Secretary of War. Notwithstanding the high state of their discipline and excellent police, the evils resulting to the service from the deficiency of company officers, were very apparent, and I recommend that the staff officers be permanently separated from that line.

The Navy has been usefully and honorably employed in protecting the rights and property of our citizens, wherever the condition of affairs seemed to require its presence. With the exception of one instance, where an outrage, accompanied by murder, was committed on a vessel of the United States while engaged in a lawful commerce, nothing is known to have occurred to impede or molest the enterprise of our citizens on that element where it is so signally displayed.—On learning this daring act of piracy, Commodore Reid proceeded immediately to the spot, and receiving no satisfaction, either in the surrender of the murderers, or the restoration of the plundered property inflicted severe and merited chastisement on the barbarians.

It will be seen, by the report of the Secretary of the Navy respecting the disposition of our ships of war, that it has been deemed necessary to station a competent force on the coast of Africa, to prevent a fraudulent use of our flag by foreigners.

Recent experience has shown that the provisions in our existing laws which relate to the sale and transfer of American vessels, while abroad, are extremely defective. Advantage has been taken of these defects to give to vessels wholly belonging to foreigners, and navigating the ocean, an apparent American ownership. This character has been so well stimulated as to afford them comparative security in prosecuting the slave trade, a traffic emphatically denounced in our statutes, regarded with abhorrence by our citizens, and of which the effectual suppression is nowhere more sincerely desired than in the United States. These circumstances make it proper to recommend to your early attention a careful revision of these laws, so that, without impeding the freedom and facilities of our navigation, or impairing an important branch of our industry connected with it, the integrity and honor of our flag may be carefully preserved. Information derived from our consular at Havanna, showing the necessity of this, was communicated

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fail to attend a similar course. The direct supervision of the banks belongs, from the nature of our Government, to the States who authorize them. It is to their Legislatures that the people must mainly look for action on that subject. But as the conduct of the Federal Government in the management of its revenue has also a powerful though less immediate influence upon them, it becomes our duty to see that a proper direction is given to it. While the keeping of the public revenue in a separate and independent Treasury, and of collecting it in gold and silver, will have a salutary influence on the system of paper credit with which all banks are connected, and thus aid those that are sound and well managed, it will at the same time sensibly check such as are otherwise, by at once withholding the means of extravagance afforded by the public funds, and restraining them from excessive issues of notes which they would be constantly called upon to redeem.

I am aware it has been urged that this control may be best attained and exerted by means of a National Bank. The constitutional objections, which I am well known to entertain, would prevent me in any event from proposing or assenting to that remedy; but in addition to this, I cannot, after past experience, bring myself to think that it can any longer be extensively regarded as effective for such a purpose. The history of the late National Bank, through all its mutations, shows that it was not so. On the contrary, it may, after a careful consideration of the subject, be, I think, safely stated, that at every period of banking excess it took the lead; that in 1817 and 1818, in 1823, in 1831, and in 1834, its vast expansions, followed by distressing contractions, led to those of the State institutions. It swelled and maddened the tides of the banking system, but seldom allayed or safely directed them. At a few periods only was a salutary control exercised, but an eager desire, on the contrary, exhibited for profit in the first place; and if, afterward, its measures were severe towards other institutions, it was because its own safety compelled it to adopt them. It did not differ from them in principle or in form; its measures emanated from the same spirit of gain, it felt the same temptation to overissues; it suffered from, and was totally unable to avert, those inevitable laws of trade, by which it was itself affected equally with them; and at least on one occasion, at an early day, it was saved only by extraordinary exertions from the same fate that attended the weakest institution it professed to supervise. In 1837 it failed, equally with others, in redeeming its notes, though the two years allowed by its charter for that purpose had not expired, a large amount of which remains to the present time outstanding. It is true, that having so vast a capital, and strengthened by the use of all the revenues of the Government, it possessed more power; but while it was itself, by that circumstance, freed from the control which all banks require, its paramount object and inducement were lost the same—to make the most for its stockholders, not to regulate the currency of the country. Nor has it, as far as we are advised, been found to be greatly otherwise elsewhere. The national character given to the Bank of England has not prevented excessive fluctuations in their currency, and it proved unable to keep off a suspension of specie payments, which lasted for nearly a quarter of a century. And why should we expect it to be otherwise? A national institution, though deriving its charter from a different source than the State Banks, is yet constituted upon the same principles; is conducted by men equally exposed to temptation; and is liable to the same disasters, with the additional disadvantage that its magnitude occasions an extent of confusion and distress which the mismanagement of smaller institutions could not produce. It can scarcely be doubted that the recent suspension of the United States Bank of Pennsylvania, of which the effects are felt not in that State alone, but over half the Union, had its origin in a course of business commenced while it was a national institution; and there is no good reason for supposing that the same consequences would not have followed had it still derived its powers from the General Government. It is vain, when the influences and impulses are the same, to look for a difference in conduct or results. By such creations we do, therefore, but increase the mass of paper credit and paper currency, without checking their attendant evils and fluctuations. The extent of power and the efficiency of organization which we give, so far from being beneficial, are, in practice, positively injurious. They strengthen the chain of dependence throughout the Union, subject all parts more certainly to common disaster, and bind every bank more effectually, in the first instance, to those of our commercial cities, and, in the end, to a foreign power. In a word I cannot but believe that, with the full understanding of the operations of our banking system which experience has produced, public sentiment is not less opposed to the creation of a National Bank for purposes connected with currency and commerce, than for those connected with the fiscal operations of the Government.

Yet the commerce and currency of the country are suffering evils from the operations of the State banks which cannot and ought not to be overlooked. By their means we have been flooded with a depreciated paper, which it was evident by the design of the framers of the Constitution to prevent, when they required Congress to "coin money and regulate the value of foreign coins," and when they forbade the States "to coin money, emit bills of credit, make any thing but gold and silver a tender in payment of debts," or "pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts." If they did not guard more explicitly against the present state of things, it was because they could not have anticipated that the few banks then existing were to swell to an extent which would expel to so great a degree the gold and silver of which they had provided, from the channels of circulation, and fill them with a currency that defeats the objects they had in view. The remedy for this must chiefly rest with the States from whose legislation it has sprung.—No good that might accrue in a particular case from the exercise of powers, not obviously conferred on the General Government, would authorize its interference, or justify a course that might, in the slightest degree, increase, at the expense of the States, the power of the Federal authorities—nor do I doubt that the States will apply the remedy. Within the last few years, events have appeared to them too strongly to be disregarded. They have seen that the Constitution, though theoretically adhered to, is subverted in practice; that while on the statute books there is no legal tender but gold and silver, no law impairing the obligations of contracts, yet that, in point of fact, the privilege conferred on banking corporations have made their notes the currency of the country; that the obligations imposed by these notes are violated under the impulses of

interest or convenience; and that the number and power of the persons connected with these corporations, or placed under their influence, give them a fearful weight when their interest is in opposition to the spirit of the Constitution and laws. To the people it is immaterial whether these results are produced by open violations of the latter, or by the workings of a system of which the result is the same. An inflexible execution even of the existing statutes of most of the States, would redress many evils now endured; would effectually show the banks the dangers of mismanagement, which impunity encourages them to repeat, and would teach all corporations the useful lesson that they are the subjects of the law, and the servants of the people. What is still wanting to effect these objects must be sought in additional legislation; or, if that be inadequate, in such further constitutional grants or restrictions as may bring us back into the path from which we have so widely wandered.

In the meantime, it is the duty of the General Government to co-operate with the States, by a wise exercise of its constitutional powers, and the enforcement of its existing laws. The extent to which it may do so by further enactments, I have already adverted to, and the wisdom of Congress may yet enlarge them. But, above all, it is incumbent upon us to hold erect the principles of morality and law, constantly executing our own contracts in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, and thus serving as a rallying point by which our whole country may be brought back to that safe and honored standard.

Our people will not long be insensible to the extent of the burdens entailed upon them by the false system that has been operating on their sanguine, energetic, and industrious character; nor to the means necessary to extricate themselves from these embarrassments. The weight which presses upon a large portion of the people and the States, is an enormous debt, foreign and domestic. The foreign debt of our States, corporations, and men of business, can scarcely be less than two hundred millions of dollars, requiring more than ten millions of dollars a year to pay the interest. This sum has to be paid out of the exports of the country, and must of necessity cut off imports to that extent, or plunge the country more deeply in debt from year to year. It is easy to see that the increase of this foreign debt must augment the annual demand on the exports to pay the interest, and to the same extent diminish the imports; and in proportion to the enlargement of the foreign debt, and the consequent increase of interest, must be the decrease of the import trade. In lieu of the comforts which it now brings us, we might have our gigantic banking institutions, and splendid, but, in many instances, profitless railroads and canals, absorbing to a great extent, in interest upon the capital borrowed to construct them, the surplus fruits of national industry for years to come, and securing to posterity no adequate return for the comforts which the labors of their hands might otherwise have secured. It is not by the increase of this debt that relief is to be sought, but in its diminution. Upon this point, there is, I am happy to say, hope before us, not so much in the return of confidence abroad, which will enable the States to borrow more money, as in a change of public feeling at home, which prompts our people to pause in their career, and think of the means by which debts are to be paid before they are contracted. If we would escape embarrassment, public and private, we must cease to run in debt, except for objects of necessity, or such as will yield a certain return. Let the faith of the States, corporations, and individuals, already pledged, be kept with the most punctilious regard. In is due to our national character, as well as to justice, that this should, on the part of each, be a fixed principle of conduct. But it behooves us all to be more chary in pledging it hereafter. By ceasing to run in debt, and applying the surplus of our crops and incomes to the discharge of existing obligations, buying less and selling more, and managing all affairs, public and private, with strict economy and frugality, we shall see our country soon recover from a temporary depression, arising not from natural and permanent causes, but from those I have enumerated, and advance with renewed vigor in her career of prosperity.

Fortunately for us, at this moment, when the balance of trade is greatly against us, and the difficulty of meeting it enhanced by the disturbed state of our money affairs, the counties of Providence have come to relieve us from the consequences of past errors. A faithful application of the immense surplus of the labor of the last season will afford partial relief for the present, and perseverance in the same course will, in due season, accomplish the rest. We have had full experience, in times past, of the extraordinary results which can, in this respect, be brought about in a short period, by the united and well directed efforts of communities like ours. Our surplus profits, the energy and industry of our population, and the wonderful advantages which Providence has bestowed upon our country, in its climate, its various productions, indispensable to other nations, afford abundant means to perfect the most useful of those objects, for which the States have been plunging themselves of late in embarrassment and debt, without imposing on ourselves or our children such fearful burdens.

But let it be indelibly engraved on our minds that relief is not to be found in expedients. Indebtedness cannot be lessened by borrowing more money, or by changing the form of the debt. The balance of trade is not to be turned in our favor by creating new demands upon us abroad. Our currency cannot be improved by the creation of new banks or more issues from those which now exist. Although these devices sometimes appear to give temporary relief, they almost invariably aggravate the evil in the end. It is only by retrenchment and reform, by curtailing public and private expenditures, by paying our debts, and by reforming our banking system, that we are to expect effectual relief, security for the future, and an enduring prosperity. In shaping the institutions and policy of the General Government so as to promote, as far as it can with its limited powers, these important ends, you may rely on my most cordial co-operation.

That there should have been, in the progress of recent events, doubts in many quarters, and in some a heated opposition to every change, cannot surprise us. Doubts are properly attendant on all reform; and it is peculiarly in the nature of such abuses as we are now encountering, to seek to perpetuate their power by means of the influence which they have been permitted to acquire. It is their result, if not their object, to gain for the few an ascendancy over the many, by securing to them a monopoly of the currency, the medium through which most of the wants of mankind are supplied—to produce throughout society a chain of dependence which leads all classes to look to privileged associations for the means of speculation and extravagance—to nourish, in preference to the many virtues that give dignity to human nature, a craving desire for luxurious enjoyment and sudden wealth, which renders those who seek their dependent on those who supply them—to substitute for republican simplicity and economical habits a sickly appetite for effeminate indulgence, and an imitation of that reckless extravagance which impoverishes and enslaved the industrious people of foreign lands; and, at last, to fix upon us, instead of those equal political rights, the acquisition of which was alike the object and supposed reward of our Revolutionary struggle, a system of exclusive privileges conferred by partial legislation. To remove the influences which had thus gradually grown up among us—to deprive them of their deceptive advantages—to test them by the light of wisdom and truth—to oppose the force which they concentrate in their support—all this was necessarily the work of time, even among people so enlightened and pure as that of the United States. In most other countries, perhaps, it could only be accomplished through that series of revolutionary movements,

which are too often found necessary to effect any great and radical reform; but it is the crowning merit of our institutions, that they create and nourish in the vast majority of our people, a disposition and a power peaceably to remedy abuses which have elsewhere caused the effusion of rivers of blood, and the sacrifice of thousands of the human race. The result thus far is most honorable to the self-reliance, intelligence, and patriotism of our citizens; it justifies the confident hope that they will carry through the reform which has been so well begun, and that they will go still farther than they have yet done in illustrating the important truth, that a people as free and enlightened as ours, will, whenever it becomes necessary, show themselves to be indeed capable of self-government by voluntarily adopting appropriate remedies for every abuse, and submitting to temporary sacrifices, however great, to ensure their permanent welfare.

My own exertions for the furtherance of these desirable objects have been bestowed, throughout my official career, with a zeal that is nourished by ardent wishes for the welfare of my country, and by an unlimited reliance on the wisdom that marks its ultimate decision on all great and controverted questions. Impressed with the solemn obligations imposed upon me by the Constitution, desirous also of laying before my fellow-citizens, with whose confidence and support I have been so highly honored, such measures as appear to me conducive to their prosperity, and anxious to submit to their fullest consideration the grounds upon which my opinions are formed, I have on this as on preceding occasions, freely offered my views on those points of domestic policy that seem at the present time, most prominently to require the action of the Government. I know that they will receive from Congress that full and able consideration which the importance of the subjects merit, and I can repeat the assurance heretofore made, that I shall cheerfully and readily co-operate with you in every measure that will tend to promote the welfare of the Union.

M. VAN BUREN.

WASHINGTON, December 2, 1839.

Third Auction Sale of Vito Viti

At the Auction rooms of G. Christy, on Main street, next door to Oldham, Todd & Co. and opposite Montmoulin & Cornwells—

Will take place on Wednesday, the 15th inst. at 10 o'clock, A. M. The articles to be sold, consist, in part of the following:

Rich Mantel Lamps, with lustres, 3 and 4 lights; Candelabras, splendid 15 day Clocks, Astral Lamps, Silver Plated Cake Baskets and Waiters, assorted sizes; Goblets, Snuffboxes and Trays, and a great variety of Plated Ware; Alabaster and Agate Mantel Ornaments; Octagon and plain white and gilt French Dinner Sets, Breakfast, Dessert and Tea Sets, of different patterns; Crystal Dishes, Burlington Dinner Sets, Pitchers, all sizes; China covered Dishes, Plates, assorted sizes, Tea and Coffee Cups, by the dozen; splendid Japan Waiters, China Spoons, Shell work Boxes, Musical Boxes, 2 to 6 tones; Cut Glassware, consisting of Decanters, Wines, Champagne Glasses and Tumblers, in sets; Lenoirade, Jelly and Ice Cream Glasses, and a very extensive assortment of Fancy Chinese Ivory Work, Gentlemen's and Ladies' Writing Desks, Accordions, Fancy Silk Baskets, China Fruit do., Shell Pin Cushions, Gilt and Gold Jewelry, consisting of Mosaic Breast Pins, Head Ornaments and Bracelets, with a great variety of useful and fancy articles. The Goods will be open on Tuesday, the 14th inst. for inspection, when the Ladies and Gentlemen of Lexington and vicinity are respectfully invited to call and examine the Goods. The stock for this sale is much larger than has ever been offered. It is worth the attention of purchasers, as they will be sold without reserve, in consequence of Mr. Vito Viti being about to leave, and they will not have an opportunity of purchasing fine Ware on as good terms again.

Terms of Sale—Under \$50, Cash; \$50 to \$100, 6 months; over \$200, 8 months, for approved negotiable notes.

G. CHRISTY, Aucr.

Lexington, Jan. 7, 1840 42-3t

HOUSE AND LOT

For Sale.

I WISH to sell the interest I hold in the HOUSE and LOT I now occupy on Main street, above Mr. Redd's Factory. The house is well calculated for a comfortable sized family, having four rooms on the first, and two on the second floor; a good Cellar, Kitchen, Smoke-house, and frame Stable. I hold a life estate in the property, and would sell it on reasonable terms.

N. L. FINNELL.

Lexington, Jan. 2, 1840—1-tf

NOTICE.

THE subscriber returns his thanks to his friends and the public generally, for the very liberal patronage he has received from them; and takes this method to inform them that he has this day associated with him his son, John Skillman.

The business which in future be conducted under the firm of A. T. SKILLMAN & SON.

A. T. SKILLMAN.

A. T. Skillman & Son,
Wholesale and Retail Booksellers and Stationers,
Lexington, Kentucky.

RESPECTFULLY inform their friends and the public, that they will continue to keep on hand, at the old stand, a general assortment of Law, Medical, Theological, School and Miscellaneous Books, stationery, Music, Musical Instruments, &c., at wholesale and retail, which they will sell very low for cash.

They will receive regularly the new works in the various departments of literature, as they issue from the press.

Lexington, Jan. 1, 1840-tf

City Lots in Louisville.

WE have for sale, TWO TOWN LOTS, in the City of Louisville, in a very improving part of the city, which we will sell for cash, or for Dry Goods at fair prices—or a likely negro girl will be taken in part payment. Also, a very superior **GRAND ACTION PIANO FORTE**, of fine tone and superior workmanship. Apply at our Auction Store, Hunt's Row.

CAVINS & BRADFORD.

Lexington, August 8, 1839.

School for Young Ladies.

THE REV. E. WINTHROP AND LADY, (formerly Miss ANDRAS), would inform their friends and the public, that, after the Christmas vacation, they will again open their School, on Monday the 30th of December, in the large and commodious rooms next door to the Episcopal Church.

TERMS—French and Ancient Languages, (for each Language) per quarter of 11 weeks, \$5 00
English Branches, and all kinds of needle work, 5 00
Drawing and Painting, 5 00
Vocal and Instrumental Music, 16 00
Tuition payable in the middle of each quarter.

Mr. W., grateful for the patronage which he has already received from his fellow-citizens, would refer those with whom he is not personally acquainted, to the following testimonials, which he has lately received from President Day, Professor Skillman, and other gentlemen connected with Yale College, and which he presumes will be entirely satisfactory:

"The Rev. Edward WINTHROP, who was graduated at this College in 1831, sustained here a fair character, and was one of the most distinguished in his class, for talents, assiduous application, ardor in the pursuit of knowledge, and attainments in literature and science. Since he was graduated, he has been most of the time, removed from our immediate observation, though we have frequently heard, from a distance, of his continued success in literary and professional pursuits."

(Signed) JEREMIAH DAY,
B. SILLMAN,
J. L. KINGSLEY,
C. A. GO DRICH.

Yale College, Nov. 22d, 1839.
December 26, 1839—52-6t

Mr. Benjamin F. Wright,

TAKE NOTICE, that we will attend at the law office of R. French and B. J. Peters, in the town of Mount Vernon, Montgomery County, Kentucky, on the 14th day of February, 1840, for the purpose of taking the deposition of Peter G. Tucker, Robert T. Smith, and Javley Smith, and others to be used and read as evidence on the trial of a certain suit, in chancery, now pending and undetermined in the Montgomery Circuit Court; wherein we are complainants, and you and others are defendants, and shall adjourn from day to day till the same is completed, at which time and place you can attend.

SAUEL D. EVERETT & CATLETT G. RICHARDSON.
By FRENCH & PETERS, their Attorneys.
December 26, 1839—52-4t

DR. DAVID WALKER respectfully informs the citizens of Lexington and its vicinity, that he has located himself permanently in Lexington, and will attend with promptness and fidelity to all calls in his profession. He may be found at Dr. B. W. DUDLEY'S Shop.
April 17, 1839. 16-tf

John W. Russell's Creditors

ARE hereby notified that I will sit as Commissioner to audit and take proof as to claims against said Russell's estate, every day at my office in Lexington, from the 6th day of January until the 1st February next. Persons having claims against said estate, must prove them as above, or they will be barred.

H. L. BODLEY, Com'r.

December 13, 1839—50-3t

Likely Young Negroes for Sale.

FOR SALE, Free likely young Negroes, on a credit of six months, satisfactorily secured. 2 men, 20, and 22 years old; 1 boy 8 years old, and a woman, and boy child 2 years old.

Enquire of the Printer, J. R. SLOAN, or JOHN BRENNAN.
Lexington, December 13, 1839—50-4t

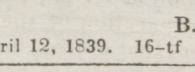
LEXINGTON HOTEL,

(RECENTLY OCCUPIED BY COL. J. KEISER.)

THE subscriber having taken the above establishment is prepared to accommodate a large number of Boarders and Travellers. The rooms are being to a considerable extent refurnished, and several new ones have been added. Every exertion will be made to render this establishment worthy the attention and patronage of the public. The Stables are of the best kind, and will receive parties on the Southern States.

B. W. TODD.

Lexington, April 12, 1839. 16-tf



KNIGHT ERRAND,

Black Knight of Malta, & White Knight of Barcelona.

THREE JACKS, imported into Charleston, S. C. in December 1837, by Mr. Miller. These Jacks are four years old each, and I challenge the United States to produce three of the same age, their equal in size, form and symmetry.

I have in my possession, satisfactory certificates from gentlemen of the first respectability, to prove the performances of these animals.

It is from imported Jacks of this kind, that the Kentuckians raise such fine Mules—say at two years old, they are worth from \$100 to \$150, and not more trouble in raising than a calf at the same age, and from ordinary mares.

The above Jacks are either for sale, or to be farmed out on accommodating terms, by application to the subscriber at Ashville, North Carolina, where the animals can be seen, and satisfactory certificates exhibited.

THOMAS T. PATTON.

Ashville, N. C. Nov. 28, 1839—48-3m

Fresh Teas and Indigo.

75 13 lb boxes G. P. TEA;
60 6 lb " do
10 half chests, very superior;
5 boxes Black Tea, in pound papers;
4 casks S. F. INDIGO;
Just received and for sale by

JNO. B. TILFORD,

No. 41, Main street.

Nov. 27, 1839—48-tf

Raisins, Prunes and Pine Apple Cheese.

125 WHOLE and Quarter Boxes M. R. RAISINS, fresh and in fine order;
20 Boxes PINE APPLE CHEESE;
5 Cases Fresh PRUNES;
30 Boxes Crystallized FRUITS, assorted;
50 do ROCK CANDY;
Just received and for sale by

JNO. B. TILFORD,

No. 41, Main street.

Lexington Nov., 28, 1839—48-tf

Cash for Lard!!

THE subscribers will give the highest price for LARD, delivered to them in Lexington. They will furnish kegs and barrels without charge to those who may wish to make engagements.

For Sale a large quantity of Lard kegs at reduced prices.

CORNWALL & BROTHER.

Lexington, Nov. 7, 1839—45-3m

Music for Weddings, Balls and Parties.

FROM two to six good Musicians, (as a Band,) can be furnished by application to Mr. RICHARDSON, No. 49, Limestone, (or North Mulberry) Street, for Lexington, or elsewhere, at a price to suit the times.

Nov. 14, 1839—46-tf

KENTUCKY STEAM

HAT FACTORY,

No. 38, West Main-Street, corner of Main-Cross St.,

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY.

THE subscriber continues his very general assortment of HATS and CAPS, of the most fashionable and desirable qualities, including the New York and Philadelphia Winter Fashions of 1839-40, for gentlemen's HATS, and the Parisian and Spanish style of FUR CAPS; all of which are offered for cash, or to punctual customers, at prices suited to the times.

Wholesale dealers, or persons who have to furnish a number of hands with hats or Caps, will consult their interest by examining my stock before purchasing elsewhere.

Dec. 26, 1839—52-3m

P. S.—Just received a new superior MUFFS for Ladies; also, Gentlemen's BOAS, a very comfortable article for severe cold weather.

W. F. T.

WILLIAM ALLISON,

BOOT AND SHOE MAKER,

RETURNS his thanks for the encouragement heretofore received in the line of his business, and takes this method of informing his friends and the public in general, that he continues the said business on Upper street, between Norton's apothecary shop and the market-house; where he will be always ready to serve customers with work of the best quality. He also announces, that he has lately received a choice supply of Eastern Work, selected for him, consisting of Boots, Booties and Shoes of every description, being a regular assortment for this market. He would ask his friends and all wishing to be served in his line, to call and examine his stock.

Lexington, July 25, 1839—30-tf

Building Lot for Sale.

A BEAUTIFUL BUILDING LOT, fronting 50 feet on Upper Street, at the corner of Upper and Pine streets, running back 150 feet to Croghan street, being one of the lots sold by Stephens and Winslow, and numbered 8 in their plat of lots sold. Title undisputed.

Apply to JOHN M. McCALLA.

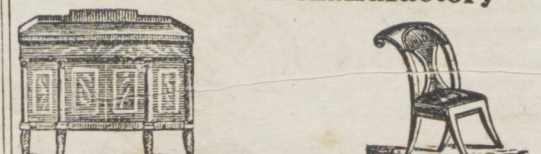
June 20—54-tf

To Stammerers.

FROM the numerous applications for the cure of STAMMERING, I shall return to Lexington in the course of six weeks, and remain about three or four weeks.

C. H. CHAPMAN.
Lexington, May 2, 1839. 11-18

Great Western Manufactory



OF FURNITURE, CHAIRS & SOFAS;
Venetian Blinds, Mattresses, Feather Beds, &c.

No. 15, Hunt's Row,

LEXINGTON, KY.

THE subscriber has taken the house at the West end of Hunt's Row, opposite the Rail-road Office, and has fitted it up for a FURNITURE MANUFACTORY; and is now making some of the most fashionable Furniture, Chairs, &c. that is made at the present day. The subscriber has in his employ, some of the best workmen in the United States, and is a practical workman himself. He assures the public that he can make furniture as fashionable and as durable as it can be made elsewhere,—my stock is tolerably large. It is useless to enumerate articles, for I can supply my friends and customers with all kinds of Furniture on accommodating terms as any house in the city. I think I can please the majority of my customers, if beauty, durability, and low prices combined together will have the effect.

PAINTING.

I will also fill all orders for Plain, Gold or Ornamental Signs—Landscape Painting on walls or fire boards, in oil or distemper colors—Gilding Picture Frames, together with various kinds of ORNAMENTAL PAINTING as may be wanted. All orders executed with neatness and despatch on the most reasonable terms.

It may be well for the Farmers, Merchants and Citizens generally, to keep an eye to the difference in expense and natural effect on the prosperity of the country by feeding and clothing the mechanics here at home, and those that live East of the Alleghanies. The more figuring and cyphering there is done about the matter, the more Bacon, Flour, Corn, Dry Goods, and Furniture will be sold here amongst us. I will take a few thousand pounds of Bacon, and two or three hundred barrels of Corn, in exchange for Furniture by way of experiment.

HORACE E. DIMICK,

Lexington, June 20, 1839. No. 15, Hunt's Row.

Plough Making & Blacksmithing.

THE Subscribers re-

spectfully inform their friends and the public generally, that they have purchased the well known establishment, formerly belonging to Mr. William Rockhill, and are now prepared to furnish all articles in their line, on short notice. The PLOUGH MAKING Business will be continued in all its branches, and a good assortment of the latest improved Ploughs kept constantly on hand. Old Ploughs repaired with neatness and despatch.

WM. P. BROWNING,

JOHN HEADLEY,

UNDER THE FIRM OF

BROWNING & HEADLEY.

N. B. We wish to employ a first-rate Plough-Stocker, or Wagon Maker, to whom constant employment will be given. Also—2 or 3 Apprentices in the Smithshop, of respectable parentage, and who can come well recommended. Lex Sep. 7—53-tf

TO HEMP MANUFACTURERS.

THE subscriber has invented a HEMP HECKLE, which may be put in operation by any power. The Hemp and Tow are put in good order with very little labour. Any person wishing information on the subject are referred to William Alexander near Paris, who has one of my Heckles in operation though not yet completed. The machinery is simple and durable. Any person endeavoring to make a machine of the above description, without permission, will be treated as they deserve. Communications addressed to the subscriber in Shelbyville, will be promptly attended to.

FOSTER DEMASTERS.

October 4, 1838 40-tf

FAIR NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted to the late firm of BOWMAN & DUNN, are most respectfully solicited to call and liquidate the same, on or before the 1st day of June next. All persons not complying with the above requisition, may expect to be waited on by an officer on that date.

JOHN BOWMAN.

May 2, 1839. 18-tf

Money!!

THOSE persons who are indebted to the subscribers will do us a special favor by calling and settling their accounts, and by so doing, they will save us much time and trouble in having to call on them.

OREAR & BERKLEY.

Nov. 28, 1839—48-2m

LAST NOTICE.

YOUNG Gentlemen wishing to join Mr. Richardson's Night Class will please (without delay) call and sign the list at Mr. Rice's book store. As soon as a sufficient number is obtained, the class will commence at his old room. (Mr. Giron's.)

Oct. 23, '39—43-tf

George R. McKee,</

KENTUCKY GAZETTE.

LEXINGTON:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1840.



FOR PRESIDENT,
MARTIN VAN BUREN.
FOR VICE PRESIDENT,
RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—This long looked for document reached us by Saturday's Cincinnati mail. It was furnished to our city readers in an extra, and will be found entire in to-day's Gazette. It is just such a state paper as might have been expected from a Democratic President, and will be read with interest and gratification by every true hearted Democrat.

We have been severely handled, and deservedly so, by some of our brethren of the press, for the utterance of a sentiment entirely at variance with all our opinions heretofore expressed or entertained—that the general Government ought to assume the debts of the several States so prodigally contracted. Indeed when we first saw our article republished in other papers, we could not believe it was correctly quoted; but upon examination, we find it truly copied from the Gazette; and the manuscript being destroyed, we are unable to recollect whether or not it was so written, or what error of the press may have presented it in that form. There is one thing certain, and our intimate friends, we think, will bear us out, that however the sentence may appear in print, such were never our sentiments; and the object of the whole article was to put the members of Congress upon their guard, and induce them to resist any attempt to saddle the general Government with the debts of the States. That such an attempt will be made, we have little doubt, and its ultimate successful resistance, we consider problematical.

COMMITTEES IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

MONDAY, Dec. 16, 1839.

The Chair, in compliance with the duty devolved upon him, by a resolution of the Senate, on Saturday, announced the following Standing Committees of the Senate:

On Foreign Relations—Messrs. Buchanan, Clay, of Kentucky, Brown, Roane and Allen.
On Finance—Messrs. Wright, Webster, Benton, Nicholas and Hubbard.

On Commerce—Messrs. King, Davis, Ruggles, No vell and Mouton.
On Manufactures—Messrs. Lumpkin, Preston, Buchanan, Knight and Allen.

On Agriculture—Messrs. Mouton, Spence, Brown, Linn and Smith, of Conn.

On Military Affairs—Messrs. Benton, Preston, Pierce, Wall and Nicholas.

On Militia—Messrs. Clay, of Alabama, Smith, of Indiana, Phelps, Fulton and Tappan.

On Naval Affairs—Messrs. Williams, Southard, Cuthbert, Strange and Tappan.

On Public Lands—Messrs. Walker, Fulton, Clay, of Alabama, Prentiss and Norvell.

On Private Land Claims—Messrs. Linn, Sevier, Clayton, Mouton and Betts.

On Indian Affairs—Messrs. White, of Tenn. Sevier, White, of Indiana, Linn and Phelps.

On Claims—Messrs. Hubbard, Young, Merrick, Williams and Betts.

On Revolutionary Claims—Messrs. Smith, of Connecticut, White, of Tennessee, Crittenden, Knight and Robinson.

On the Judiciary—Messrs. Wall, Clayton, Crittenden, Strange and Smith, of Ind.

On the Post Office and Post Roads—Messrs. Robinson, Lumpkin, Fulton, Knight and Henderson.

On Roads and Canals—Messrs. Young, Phelps, Spence, Henderson and Smith, of Ind.

On Pensions—Messrs. Pierce, Prentiss, Roane, White and Betts.

On the District of Columbia—Messrs. Merrick, Crittenden, Southard, Lumpkin and Clayton.

On Patents and the Patent Office—Messrs. Strange, Davis, Robinson, Prentiss and Spence.

On the Contingent Expenses of the Senate—Messrs. Knight, Fulton and Lumpkin.

On Engrossed Bills—Messrs. Smith, of Indiana, Henderson and Phelps.

The Senate then went into Executive business, and afterwards Adjourned.

A FLARE UP IN HIGH LIFE.

We copy the following from the Ohio Freeman, published at Columbus. The only item respecting the subject, noticed in the other papers at the Capital, reads thus: "A bill has passed the House, to divorce Thomas Shannon from his wife Sarah Shannon."

SUDDEN DIVORCEMENT.—On Monday last, the elite of this great city were thrown into the utmost consternation, confusion and dismay, by a most unexpected discovery that a certain lady, the recently espoused wife of an honorable Senator, was not exactly what she should be.—It appears that the honorable Senator, who is very nearly related to his Excellency, met this accomplished and bewitching Cyprian some months since in the course of his travels, and became so completely enamored with her perfections, that a correspondence was fixed upon, and regularly continued until the consummation of their union, which took place in New Orleans a short time before the meeting of the Legislature. On the arrival of the parties in this city, the lady took her place at the hotel table and was received with open arms by the fashionable and the gay, the virtuous and the pious, of this fashionable and gay, virtuous and pious city. Parties were given by the aristocracy, to which none but the aristocracy were, of course, invited, in honor of Mrs. Senator S—, and the gilt and embossed cards of the honorable and the amiable were poured in upon her by the dozens. But, alas for the aristocracy, and alas for the amora of Senator S—! Her career of deception was doomed to be a short one! At one of the parties she was discovered by a former friend or acquaintance, and her true character im-

mediately and fully exposed! The consequence was that she did not make her appearance at breakfast on Tuesday morning, and long before dinner she was far east on the national road, and a bill of divorce introduced into the House, which was passed on the instant, relieving Senator S— from his unfortunate connection, as far as the House could do it.

I have but one remark to make on this painful transaction—it is this—why should a woman be driven from the society of her sex for having in her time, been guilty of a violation of the commandments, while those of the other sex, who were, perhaps, the cause of her guilt,—at all events, who were her guilty companions, are retained in favor, without perhaps, a blush or a frown of contempt? As I am not of the fashionable world, I shall not presume to decide this knotty question.

From the Baltimore American.

RUSSIA.

We have read an interesting article from the Paris National on the subject of Russian encroachments. The progress of this gigantic power is traced from the time when Peter the Great laid the first stone of St. Petersburg, in 1703, until now, when the black eagle's wings are flapping over the domes of St. Sophia. Before the first named period, Moscow was unknown to the great nations of Europe. Russia possessed not a single point upon the Baltic; she was hemmed in by Turkey, then a formidable power; by Poland, as yet inviolate, and by Sweden, a vigorous enemy. Her maritime territory, now, bordered by the Baltic, extends on the north side from the bottom of the Gulf of Bothnia to beyond the Niemen, including Finland and Eastern Bothnia, which she has wrested from Sweden. She has acquired large domains from Turkey, and what is of more importance, she obtained the exclusive navigation of the Black Sea. Poland exists no longer. After enumerating her encroachments towards Persia and in other directions, the article in the National continues.

"With the incontestable evidence of so rapid and gigantic conquests recorded indelibly on every map and geographical work, who can for a moment doubt the ambitious projects of Russia, not merely upon Constantinople, for that is beyond all doubt, but with respect to India, as also of her capability of carrying them into execution? Sufficient attention has not as yet been paid, nor can too much be said with respect to the grandeur, skill and perseverance of the policy adopted by the Czars, from the time of Peter the Great, to the present—a policy connecting every thing by an indissoluble chain, and which makes every thing tend to the same object.

"Russia finds herself impelled by the force of events to become a great maritime power of the first class; the waters of the Baltic could no longer suffice for her navy, and to increase her influence in the Black Sea, the possession of Constantinople was indispensable. Her armies have already encamped under the walls of that city; she only wants a fitting opportunity of descending once more into the plains of Adrianople; and should this occur, she will not stand still there; but will push onwards to that city so much coveted by Napoleon, and hold perpetual possession of it. This was the prediction of Napoleon."

As a means of counteracting the vast designs of Russia, the Paris Journal declares that it is of the first importance to establish French influence and civilization in Egypt.

A meeting of the Mayor and Councilmen of the City of Lexington, January 6, 1840, the election books of the several Wards were returned, from which it appeared that the vote for Mayor stood as follows:

For Charles H. Wickliffe, 395
For G. L. Postlethwaite, 319

And that the following Councilmen were elected:

WARD No. 1.	Wm. W. Ater, James C. Butler, Joseph G. Chinn, John W. Forbes, N. Headington, B. W. Todd.
WARD No. 2.	Jno. B. Johnson, Alex'r. Moore, J. R. Sloan, B. C. Blincoe, B. F. Graves, E. W. Theobald.
WARD No. 3.	Att. J. P. MEGOWAN, CLK. City. Lexington, Jan. 9, 1840—24
WARD No. 4.	

A CARD.

J. B. STOUT, M. D.

SURGEON DENTIST, having taken leave of his patients in the city of New York, designing to pass the winter months in Lexington, respectfully tenders his professional services to his inhabitants and vicinity, at the office of his friend, Doctor Clagett, who, owing to a press of business, requiring assistance, and a disposition to facilitate the favors of his patrons, has solicited this arrangement.

DR. H. CLAGETT

Would respectfully state to his friends and the public that he has been induced from the liberal patronage extended to him, and his personal knowledge of the skill and high reputation which Dr. Stout has for years sustained in New York as a Surgeon Dentist, to secure his assistance during his stay in this city; being persuaded that by so doing, he will not only be enabled to expedite his labors, but give ample satisfaction to those whose confidence they may enjoy.

He still continues his office on Mill-street, near Dr. Dudley's, Jan. 9, 1840—24

DOCTOR HOLLAND'S

Residence and Shop permanently located.
DR. HOLLAND will, in future, reside permanently, at his house, at the corner of Short-street and Jordan's Row, the former residence of Dr. Walter Warfield, and recently occupied as a Boarding-house, by Mrs. Crittenden. His shop, for the present, is on Main-street, next door to Norton's Drug Store, but will, in a few weeks, be removed to the basement of his residence. Jan. 9, 1840—24

DISSOLUTION.

THE Partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned, in the Coach-making Business, was this day dissolved by mutual consent. All persons having claims against the firm, will present them for settlement, and all indebted will please come forward and liquidate the same as soon as possible.

JABEZ BEACH,
JOHN MCGINNIS.

November 12, 1839. 2-34
N. B. The business, in future, will be conducted at the old stand, above Brennan's Hotel, by J. MCGINNIS.

NO REMOVED.

AS several of my friends and customers had remarked to me, that they heard my store was removed, I take this method to inform my customers and the public in general, that I continue my store in the same house, one door from the corner of west main and Broadway streets, and have newly received from the east a variety of LACES, RIBBONS, and other goods which I will sell as cheap if not cheaper than ever for cash. H. WHITTEL.
Dec. 4, 1839—49-4f

A LIST OF LETTERS remaining in the Lexington Post Office on the 1st day of January, 1840, which, if not taken out in three months, will be sent to the General Post Office as dead letters.

A
Abernathy David
Abbott Lyman Jr
Adams John M N
Addix John E
Aikin John
Akern J
Allen John C
Alexander James E
Alvis John

B
B—Sarah H Miss
Baker Amos
Baker John
Baker Catharine Miss
Baker David
Baker Allen
Baily John R
Barnett Caroline Miss
Ball Elizabeth Miss
Ball Mary Miss
Blair A H Mrs
Blanchard A
Blanton Richard & Co
Blair Edmund
Brainard George S 2
Brackenridge Wilcher
Bell Margaret Miss
Bell C W
Bell Theodore (colored)
Bell Eliza Mrs
Bell Mary Ann Miss
Bell David Jr
Belles Henry T
Beveridge James A
Berkley Wm H
Blew George
Beard Martha Mrs
Beard Mary Jane Miss
Blue Rolly (colored)
Bookagt Scolman

C
Campbell Enos
Cave John W
Cassell Theo J
Case Mary Ann Miss
Carpenter William
Casey J B
Caldwell James (student)
Candle Elenor S
Chapman Wm W
Clarke Ann Miss
Clark Jane Smith (colored)
Clark Thomas G
Clark Elizabeth Miss
Clark B G Dr
Clary Sally W Miss
Clark F
Craig Charles P
Craig James
Craig J W
Creath Jacob

D
Daniel Ann M
Daniel Eliza
Daniel John F
Davis L
Davis Sarah Miss
Davison Thomas
Davison Davy
Dempsey W D Dr
Didroit John Monsieur
Divine William
Dixon Susanah
Downing Elizabeth
Donnelly Daniel

E
Edwards Henry
Edwards John D
Elliott James R
Elliott T Dr
Emerine Abraham
Emery Jacob

F
Farrar Joseph
Farrar B F
Franklin Joseph F 2
Fetherston Robt R
Ferguson John
Fleming William
French Martha

G
Gaines Saml M
Gaines Nancy Mrs
Gaines Stoddard
Gains Ann Mrs
Gatewood Richard
Gray William 2
Gray Moses
Gray Thomas
Graves G
Graves John C
Graves Lucretia Mrs
Graves Henry H
Graham V S 2
Graham Robert
Grahams (musicians)
Grady William

H
Harwell Milton Dr
Hanley Margaret Miss
Harwell J W Dr
Hawkins Elizabeth Mrs
Hawkins Elizabeth Miss
Halstead Joseph S Dr
Hale D B
Hardist William
Harp George
Hamilton William
Hall Thomas
Hamilton Margaret Miss
Hakes Thomas
Hays D
Headly Lucinda Miss
Hewy Wm Mrs
Henderson David
Henry Emmaly
Henry Mary Ann Miss 2
Hill Martin G 2
Higby James P

I
Ingles E
Ingles Isabella

J
Johnson John
Johnson David
Jones Will P Dr
Jonson Susan
Johnson William
Johnson Jane F Miss
Jones S E

K
Kerrik James
Keen Franklin
Keen Mary Mrs
Key William J
Kirk Edward D
Kienca James
Kennedy Bartolomew

L
Lewis John A
Livingston A Mrs
Lester John
Lindsay William D
Lemons John
Lowry Mahlon G 2
Lockridge Dudley
Logan Saml
Logan James

M
Moore Joseph B
Moore Andrew
Morford Ann M
Monfort J G Rev
Montefer D Monsieur
Morgan Mary Mrs
Montagu Thomas 2
Morris Hannah
Morrison Martha
Mosley Sarah S

N
Neal Ann
Neal Charles 2

O
Osborne Mahlon
Osborne James H
Owen Clark L Capt

P
Parker Francis
Parker Warren
Page James C
Page Thomas or William 3
Payne Thomas
Payne Edward
Payne Elizabeth Miss
Paulding William Dr
Patterson William
Parkes C W Dr 2
Pew B F
Pratt Nehemiah B
Prather John sr 2
Prather John M
Pond George O Dr

R
Rankin James
Raggs Kitty Mrs
Rees Arthur
Reins James
Reins Thomas
Ragers Benjamin
Ragers Thomas 2
Ragers Mary A Miss 2
Rogers B F 2
Rogers John W
Rogers James Dr

S
Sacer William H
Samuels E B
Shackelford Jno C
Shaw Harriett
Sparhawk John
Sparks Margaret Miss
Sparks Hiram B
Stafford D P
Stafford Sarah R Mrs
Sheppard J A
Shepard H H Dr
Stewart R
Stewart Sally Ann
Stewart John
Stebbins Henry
Sellers Helen Miss
Seemer W
Steel H P
Steel Ann Miss
Steel Thomas
Steel Andrew P

T
Tatlock T J M
Tarkey Nancy
Tarrill Sophia
Merrill Martha Miss 2
Messick E
Mesmer Antonia
Merrell Jefferson
Miller Catharine
Miller M W
Miller Joseph
Miller & Co
Miller John
Miller W
Mitchell Francis
Morton Ann S
Moore William 2

U
Underwood Mr
Varlow John L

V
Vanceoy K
Vamble Samuel 3

W
Washington Pety
Warfield Edward Col
Ware Nathan A Maj
Waggett George 2
Walker James T 2
Wallace Richard
Wallace Thomas M
Wallace Joseph Wm
Wallace John
Walson James
Watson John A 2
Washington Moses
Whaley James 2
Weeks S Dr
Weeks Hannah Lucy Miss
Weaver John W
Weigart Horace A
Wingate Joseph

Y
York Newman
Yours Patrick

Z
Zener John
Persons calling for any of the above letters will please say that they are advertised.

Jan. 9, 1840 2-3t

Umbrella Repairing, &c.

MRS. CATHARINE MARSH, would respectfully inform her old customers and the public, that she still continues her business of making and repairing Umbrellas, at her old stand, on the corner of Main & Spring streets. She has on hand a fine stock of heavy Silks, with other necessary articles for promptly repairing damaged Umbrellas in the best and most lasting manner.

Mrs. Marsh has rooms for the comfortable accommodation of eight BOARDERS, who could be agreeably situated, on good terms. Her residence is so convenient to the Medical Hall, that students might find it advantageous to call and examine her accommodations.

Lex. Oct. 17, 1839—42-4f

OYSTERS! OYSTERS!

I WISH to inform the public that I am now receiving FRESH YORK RIVER OYSTERS every other night, from Baltimore, and shall continue to do so during the season. Having purchased the extensive establishment now occupied by Mr. J. G. Mathers, nearly opposite my present stand, I assure my friends and the public that my accommodations will shortly be extended so as to entertain them as they should be.

N. B. PICKLED OYSTERS are likewise kept constantly on hand. JACOB BLAIN.
Lexington, Dec. 3, 1839—49-4f

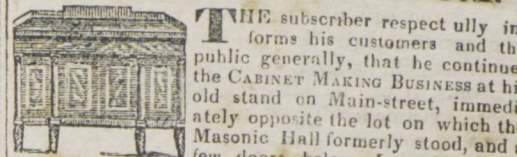
"WESTERN WORLD" PRINTING OFFICE

FOR SALE.

THIS Printing office is offered for sale. It is a very extensive and complete one, embracing every thing necessary for printing and publishing, in the best style, and to any amount, which may be required, by the business of this country,—which is very considerable. All the printing materials are nearly new, and of the best quality; as may be inferred from the appearance of this paper, and from the many beautiful specimens of Job Printing which are done in the office. And in addition to those already on hand, a handsome lot of new Type, Cuts, &c. are daily expected from Cincinnati. The whole establishment will be sold on the most favorable and accommodating terms—as to time and place. The purchaser will be desired to complete the present Advertising and Subscription engagements of the paper; and will, thereby, be at once afforded business and circulation, and secured in the patronage of the office. As will be seen in the "World," its advertising is very good.—Its subscription list is fair, and increasing daily; and one great excellence and advantage in it is,—they have all paid the cash. The Job Printing patronage will of course, depend upon the care, promptness, and skill of the mechanical department of the office.

Early applications are desired.

CABINET WARE-ROOM.



THE subscriber respectfully informs his customers and the public generally, that he continues the CABINET MAKING BUSINESS at his old stand on Main-street, immediately opposite the lot on which the Masonic Hall formerly stood, and a few doors below Logan's corner, where all articles in the way of FURNITURE can be had on as good terms as they can be elsewhere procured in the city. He invites all those wishing to purchase articles in his line, to call at his Ware-Room and examine for themselves, as he is determined to sell bargains.

Having provided himself with a FURNITURE WAGON, all articles bought of him will be delivered anywhere in the city, free of charge.

JOSEPH MILWARD.
N. B. I am prepared with a HEARSE, and will attend to Funerals calls, either in the city or country.
Lexington, Sept. 5, 1838 36-4f

Boot and Shoe Manufactory.

R. OWENS would most respectfully inform the citizens of Lexington and the public generally, that he is now receiving, and intends to keep constantly on hand, a large assortment of DOUBLE SOLE FRENCH BOOTS—and also a large lot of CORK suitable for manufacturing Cork Sole Boots and Shoes. Also, a large assortment of coarse Men's and Children's Brogans, all of which he will sell as low for Cash, as any other house in the city. He invites the public to call and examine his stock; as he feels confident they cannot be surpassed.

JOSEPH MILWARD.

N. B. I am prepared with a HEARSE, and will attend to Funerals calls, either in the city or country.
Lexington, Sept. 5, 1838 36-4f

SELLING OFF

AT COST AND CARRIAGE.

THE SUBSCRIBER, with a view to raise money, offers his STOCK OF GOODS AT COST AND CARRIAGE, for Cash, either at

WHOLESALE OR RETAIL.

His STOCK OF GOODS is large, and embraces every variety of Goods usually kept in Dry Goods houses.—Persons wishing bargains, will do well to call.

W. E. MILTON.
N. B. Those persons indebted to the late firm of Kennard & Milton, will please come forward and make payment immediately.
December 26, 1839—52-4f

PETERS' PILLS.

ENTIRELY VEGETABLE.

THESE PILLS have long been known and appreciated for their extraordinary and immediate powers of restoring perfect health, to persons suffering under nearly every kind of disease to which the human frame is liable.

When taken according to the directions accompanying them, they are highly beneficial in the prevention and cure of Bilious Fevers, Fever and Ague, Dyspepsia, Liver complaints, Sick Head-ache, Jaundice, Asthma, Dropsy, Rheumatism, Enlargement of the Spleen, Piles, Cholera, Female Obstructions, Heart-burn, Furor, Tongue, Nausea, Distension of the Stomach and Bowels, Incipient Diarrhoea, Flatulence, Habitual Costiveness, Loss of Appetite, Blotched or Sallow Complexion, and in all cases of Torpor of the Bowels, where a cathartic or aperient is needed. They are exceedingly mild in their operation, producing neither nausea, griping nor debility.

Perhaps no article of the kind has ever been offered to the public, supported by testimonials of a character so decisive, from sources as respectable, or that has given more universal satisfaction.

Hundreds and thousands bless the day they became acquainted with Peters' Vegetable Pills, which, in consequence of their extraordinary goodness, have attained a popularity unprecedented in the history of medicine. The very circumstance alone, that Physicians in every part of the Union, (but more especially in the Southern States, where they have long been in use) are making free use of them in their practices, speaks volumes in their praise. Add to this, the fact, that all who use, invariably recommend them to their friends, and the testimony in their favor is almost irresistible. As an anti-bilious remedy, and to prevent costiveness, they have no rival. One twenty-five cent box will establish their character, and prove that there is truth even in an advertisement.

More than three millions of boxes of these celebrated Pills have been sold in the United States, since January, 1837.

Prepared by JOS. PRIESTLY PETERS, M. D., at his institution for the cure of obstinate diseases, by means of vegetable remedies, No. 129, Literary-street, New York.

The Pills are neatly put up in tin boxes, containing 20 and 45 Pills—Price, 25 and 50 cents.

That the public may rest assured of the salutary effect of these Pills, and the truth of the above statements, the following LETTERS FROM MEDICAL GENTLEMEN, of the first respectability are most respectfully submitted.

CLARKSVILLE, Mecklenburg county, Va. }
Feb. 7, 1837. }

Dear Sir:—I embrace this opportunity of expressing to you, my pleasure at the unrivalled success of your Pills in this section of the country. It is a general fact of those who vend patent medicines, to say too much in their favor, but in regard to your Pills, I am firmly persuaded that they deserve far more praise than you seem inclined to give them. Six months ago, they were scarcely known here; and yet, at present there is no other medicine that can compare with them in popularity. In Dyspepsia, Sick Head-ache, derangement of the Biliary organs and obstinate constipation of the bowels, I know of no agent more prompt and efficacious, and I have had considerable experience in all these complaints.

I would add that their mildness and certainty of action render them a safe and efficient purgative for weaker individuals, and that they may be given at all times without apprehension of any of those injurious consequences which so frequently attend the application of calomel or blue pill. On the whole, I consider your Vegetable Pills an invaluable discovery.

Very respectfully,
S. H. HARRIS, M. D.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. Jan. 1, 1837.

Dear Sir:—I have made frequent use of your Pills in the incipient stage of the Bilious Fever, and obstinate constipation of the bowels; also in the enlargement of the Spleen, Chronic Diseases of the Liver, Sick Head-ache, General Debility, and in all cases have found them to be very effective.

J. D. BOYD, M. D.

Mecklenburg county, Va. Feb. 7, 1837.

Having used Dr. Peters' Pills in my practice for the last twelve months, I take pleasure in giving my testimony of their good effects in cases of Dyspepsia, Sick Head-ache, Bilious Fever, and other diseases produced by impurity of the liver. They are a safe and mild agent, being the best article of the kind I have ever used.

GEO. C. SCOTT, M. D.

Be careful and enquire for Peters' Vegetable Pills. They are for sale at all the Drug Stores in Lexington, Ky., and also, by E. Netherland, in Nicholas, by J. D. Smith, in Richmond, by Jno. Aberdeen, in Versailles, by Alexander M. Preston, in Winchester, in Mt. Sterling, by an authorized Agent; and on enquiry, can be had in almost every town and village in the State.

December 26, 1839—52-4f

[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.]

a committee of the Senate near the close of the session, but too late, as it appeared, to be acted upon. It will be brought to your notice by the proper department with additional communications from other sources.

The latest accounts from the Exploring Expedition represent it as proceeding successfully in its objects, and promising results not less useful to trade and navigation than to science.

The extent of post roads covered by mail service on the 1st of July last, was about 133,999 miles, and the rate of annual transportation on them \$4,493,878 miles. The number of post-offices on that day was 12,780, and on the 30th ultimo, 13,028.

The revenue of the Post Office Department for the year ending with the 30th of June last, was four millions four hundred and seventy-six thousand and six hundred and thirty-eight dollars—exhibiting an increase over the preceding year of two hundred and forty-one thousand five hundred and sixty dollars. The engagements and liabilities of the Department for the same period are four millions six hundred and twenty-four thousand one hundred and seventeen dollars.

The excess of liabilities over the revenue for the last two years has been met out of the surplus which had previously accumulated. The cash on hand on the 30th ultimo, was about \$206,701 99, and the current income of the Department varies very little from the rate of current expenditures. Most of the service suspended last year has been restored, and most of the new routes established by the act of July, 1835, have been set in operation at an annual cost of \$136,963. Notwithstanding the pecuniary difficulties of the country, the revenue of the Department appears to be increasing; and unless it shall be seriously checked by the recent suspension of payment by so many of the banks, it will be able not only to maintain the present mail service, but in a short time to extend it. It is gratifying to witness the promptitude and fidelity with which the agents of this Department in general perform their public duties.

Some difficulties have arisen in relation to contracts for the transportation of the mails by railroad and steamboat companies. It appears that the maximum of compensation provided by Congress for the transportation of the mails upon railroads is not sufficient to induce some of the companies to convey them at such hours as are required for the accommodation of the public. It is one of the most important duties of the General Government to provide and maintain for the use of the people of the States the best practicable mail establishment. To arrive at that end it is indispensable that the Post Office Department shall be enabled to control the hours at which the mails shall be carried over railroads, as it now does over all other roads. Should serious inconveniences arise from the inadequacy of the compensation now provided by law, or from unreasonable demands by any of the railroad companies, the subject is of such general importance as to require the prompt attention of Congress.

In relation to steamboat lines, the most efficient remedy is obvious, and has been suggested by the Postmaster General. The War and Navy Departments are already engaged in the service, and although they may not be able to do more, the Government should undertake the transportation of passengers or freight as a business, there can be no reasonable objection to running boats, temporarily, whenever it may be necessary to put down attempts at extortion, to be discontinued as soon as reasonable contracts can be obtained.

The suggestions of the Postmaster General relative to the inadequacy of the legal allowance to witnesses in cases of prosecution for mail depredations, merit your serious consideration. The safety of the mails requires that such prosecutions shall be efficient, and justice to the citizen whose time is required to be given to the public demands not only that his expenses shall be paid, but that he shall receive a reasonable compensation.

The Reports from the War, Navy and Post Office Departments will accompany this communication, and one from the Treasury Department will be presented to Congress in a few days.

For various details in respect to the matters in charge of these departments, I would refer you to the important documents, satisfied that you will find in them many valuable suggestions, which will be found well deserving the attention of the Legislature.

From a report made in December of last year by the secretary of State, to the Senate, showing the trial docket of each of the circuit courts, and the number of miles each judge has to travel in the performance of his duties, a great inequality appears in the amount of labor assigned to each judge. The number of terms to be held in each of the courts composing the ninth circuit, the distances between the places at which they sit and from thence to the seat of Government, are represented to be such as to render it impossible for the judge of that circuit to perform, in a manner corresponding with the public exigencies, his term and circuit duties. A revision, therefore, of the present arrangement of the circuits seems to be called for and is recommended to your notice.

I think it proper to call your attention to the power assumed by Territorial Legislatures to authorize the issue of bonds by corporate companies on the Territory. Congress passed a law in 1836, providing that no acts of a Territorial Legislature incorporating banks should have the force of law until approved by Congress, but acts of a very exceptional character previously passed by the Legislature of Florida, were suffered to remain in force, by virtue of which bonds may be issued to a very large amount by those institutions, upon the faith of the Territory. A resolution intending to be a joint one passed the Senate at the same session, expressing the sense of Congress that the laws in question ought not to be permitted to remain in force unless amended in many material respects, but it failed in the House of Representatives for want of time, and the desired amendments have not been made. The interests involved are of great importance, and the subject deserves your early and careful attention.

The continued agitation of the question relative to the best mode of keeping and disbursing the public money, still injuriously affects the business of the country. The suspension of specie payments in 1837, rendered the use of deposit banks as prescribed by the act of 1835, a source rather of embarrassment than aid, and of necessity placed the custody of most of the public money afterward collected in the charge of public officers. The new securities for its safety, which this required, were a principal cause of my convening an extra session of Congress; but in consequence of a disagreement between the two Houses, neither then, nor at any subsequent period, has there been any legislation on the

subject. The effort made at the last session to obtain the authority of Congress to punish the use of public money for private purposes as a crime, a measure attended under other Governments with signal advantage, was also unsuccessful from diversities of opinion in that body notwithstanding the anxiety doubtless felt by it to afford every practicable security. The result of this is still to leave the custody of the public money without those safeguards which have been for several years earnestly desired by the Executive; and as the remedy is only to be found in the action of the Legislature, it imposes on me the duty again submitting to you the propriety of passing a law, providing for the safe keeping of the public moneys, and especially to ask that its use for private purposes by any officers intrusted with it, may be declared to be a felony, punishable with penalties proportioned to the magnitude of the offence.

These circumstances, added to known defects in the existing laws and unusual derangement in the general operations of trade, have, during the last three years, much increased the difficulties attendant on collection, keeping, and disbursement of the revenue, and called forth corresponding exertions from those having them in charge. Happily these have been successful beyond expectation. Vast sums have been collected and disbursed by the several departments with unexpected cheapness and ease; transfers have been readily made to every part of the Union, however distant; and defalcations have been far less than might have been anticipated, from the absence of adequate legal restraints. Since the officers of the Treasury and Post Office Departments were charged with the custody of most of the public moneys received by them, there have been collected sixty-six millions of dollars, and excluding the case of the late collector at New York, the aggregate amount of losses sustained in the collection, cannot, it is believed, exceed \$60,000. The defalcation of the late collector at that city, of the extent and circumstances of which Congress has been fully informed, ran through all the modes of keeping the public money that have been hitherto in use, and was distinguished by an aggravated disregard of duty that broke through the restraints of every system, and cannot, therefore, be usefully referred to as a test of the comparative safety of either. Additional information will also be furnished by the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, in reply to a call made upon that officer by the H. of Representatives at the last session, requiring detailed information on the subject of defaults by public officers, or agents under each Administration, from 1789 to 1837.

This document will be submitted to you in a few days. The general results, (independent of the post office, which is kept separately and will be stated by itself,) so far as they bear upon this subject, are, that the losses which have been, and are likely to be, sustained by any class of agents, have been—the greatest by banks, including, as required in the resolution, their depreciated paper received for public dues; that the next largest have been by disbursing officers, and the least by collectors and receivers. If the losses on duty bonds are included they alone will be threefold those by both collectors and receivers. Our whole experience, therefore, furnishes the strongest evidence that the desired legislation of Congress is alone wanting to insure, in those operations, the highest degree of security and facility. Such, also appears to have been the experience of other nations. From the results of inquiries made by the Secretary of the Treasury in regard to the practice among them, I am enabled to state, that in twenty-two out of twenty-seven foreign Governments, from which undoubted information has been obtained, the public moneys are kept in charge of public officers.—This concurrence of opinion in favor of that system is perhaps as great as exists on any question of internal administration.

In the modes of business and official restraints of disbursing officers, no legal change was produced by the suspension of specie payments. The report last referred to will be found to contain, also, much useful information in relation to this subject.

I have heretofore assigned to Congress my reason for believing that the establishment of an Independent National Treasury, as contemplated by the Constitution, is necessary to the safe action of the Federal Government. The suspension of specie payments in 1837, by the banks having the custody of the public money, showed in so alarming a degree our dependence on those institutions for the performance of duties required by law, that I then recommended the entire dissolution of that connexion. This recommendation has been subjected, as I desired it should be, to severe scrutiny and animated discussion; and I allow myself to be lieve that, notwithstanding the natural diversities of opinion which may be anticipated on all subjects involving such important considerations, it has secured in its favor as general a concurrence of public sentiment as could be expected on one of such magnitude.

Recent events have also continued to develop new objections to such a connexion. Seldom is any bank, under the existing system, and practicable to meet, on demand, all its liabilities for deposits and notes in circulation. It maintains specie payments, and transacts a profitable business, only by the confidence of the public in its solvency; and whenever this is destroyed, the demands of its depositors and noteholders—pressed more rapidly than it can make collections from its debtors—force it to stop payment. This loss of confidence, with its consequences, occurred in 1837, and afforded the apology of the banks for their suspension. The public then acquiesced in the validity of the excuse; and, while the State Legislatures did not exact from them their forfeited charters, Congress, in accordance with the recommendation of the Executive, allowed them time to pay over the public money they held, although compelled to issue Treasury notes to supply the deficiency thus created.

It now appears that there are other motives than a want of public confidence under which the banks seek to justify themselves in a refusal to meet their obligations. Scarcely were the country and Government relieved, in a degree, from the difficulties occasioned by the general suspension of 1837, when a partial one, occurring within thirty months of the former, produced new and serious embarrassments, though it had no pollution in such circumstances as were alleged in justification of that which had previously taken place. There was nothing in the condition of the country to endanger a well managed banking institution; commerce was deranged by no foreign war; every branch of manufacturing industry was crowded with rich rewards; and the more than usual abundance of our harvests, after supplying our domestic wants, had left our granaries and store houses

filled with a surplus for exportation. It is in the midst of this, that an irredeemable and depreciated paper currency is entailed upon the people by a large portion of the banks. They are not driven to it by the exhibition of a loss of public confidence, or a sudden pressure from their depositors or noteholders, but they excuse themselves by alleging that the current of business, and exchange with foreign countries, which draws the precious metal from their vaults, would require, in order to meet it, a larger curtailment of their loans to a comparatively small portion of the community, than it will be convenient for them to bear, or perhaps safe for the banks to exact. The plea has passed to be one of necessity. Convenience and policy are now deemed sufficient to warrant these institutions in disregarding their solemn obligations. Such conduct is not merely an injury to individual creditors, but it is a wrong to the whole community, from whose liability they hold most valuable privileges—whose rights they violate, whose business they derange, and the value of whose property they render unstable and insecure. It must be evident that this new ground for bank suspensions, in reference to which their action is not only disconnected with, but wholly independent of that of the public, gives a character to their suspension more alarming than any which they have exhibited before, and greatly increased the impropriety of relying on the banks in the transactions of the Government.

A large and highly respectable portion of our banking institutions are, it affords me untold pleasure to state, exempted from all blame on account of this second delinquency. They have to their great credit, not only continued to meet their engagements, but have even repudiated the grounds of suspension now resorted to. It is only by such a course that the confidence and good will of the community can be preserved, and, in the sequel, the best interests of the institutions themselves promoted.

New dangers to the banks are also daily disclosed from the extension of that system of extravagant credit of which they are the pillars. Formerly our foreign commerce was principally founded on an exchange of commodities, including the precious metals, and leaving in its transactions but little foreign debt. Such is not now the case.—Aided by the facilities afforded by the banks, more credit has become too commonly the basis of trade. Many of the banks themselves, not content with largely stimulating this system among others, have usurped the business, while they impair the stability of the mercantile community; they have become borrowers instead of lenders; they establish their agencies abroad; they deal largely in stocks and merchandise; they encourage the issue of State securities, until the foreign market is glutted with them; and, unsatisfied with the legitimate use of their own capital and the exercise of their lawful privileges, they raise, by large loans, additional means for every variety of speculation. The disasters attendant on this deviation from the former course of business in this country, are now shared alike by banks and individuals, to an extent of which there is perhaps no previous example in the annals of our country. So long as a willingness of the foreign lender, and a sufficient export of our productions to meet any necessary partial payments, leave the flow of credit undisturbed, all appears to be prosperous; but as soon as it is checked by any hesitation abroad, or by any inability to make payment there in our productions, the evils of the system are disclosed. The paper currency which might serve for domestic purposes, is useless to pay the debt due in Europe. Gold and silver are therefore drawn, in exchange for their notes, from the banks. To keep up their supply of coin, these institutions are obliged to call upon their own debtors, who pay them principally in their own notes, which are as unavailable to them as they are to the merchants to meet the foreign demand.—The calls of the banks, therefore, in such emergencies of necessity, exceed that demand, and produce a corresponding curtailment of their accommodations and of the currency, at the very moment when the state of trade renders it most inconvenient to be borne. The intensity of this pressure on the community, is in proportion to the previous liberality of credit and consequent expansion of the currency; forced sales of property are made at the time when the means of purchasing are most reduced, and the worst calamities to individuals are only at last arrested, by an open violation of their obligations by the banks, a refusal to pay specie for their notes, and an imposition upon the community of a fluctuating and depreciated currency.

These consequences are inherent in the present system. They are not influenced by the banks being large or small, created by National or State Governments. They are the results of the irresistible laws of trade and credit. In the recent events which have so strikingly illustrated the certain effects of these laws, we have seen the bank of the largest capital in the Union, established under a National charter, and lately strengthened, as we were authoritatively informed, by exchanging that for a State charter, with new and unusual privileges—in a condition, too, as it was said, of entire soundness and great prosperity—not merely unable to resist these effects, but the first to yield to them.

Nor is it to be overlooked that there exists a chain of necessary dependence among these institutions which obliges them, to a great extent, to follow the course of others, notwithstanding its injustice to their own immediate creditors, or injury to the particular community in which they are placed. This dependence of a bank, which is in proportion to the extent of its debts for circulation and deposits is not merely on others in its own vicinity, but on all those which connect it with the centre of trade. Distant banks may fail, without seriously affecting those in our principal commercial cities; but the failure of the latter is felt at the extremes of the Union. The suspension at New York, in 1837, was every where, with very few exceptions, followed, as soon as it was known; that recently at Philadelphia, immediately affected the banks at the South and West in a similar manner. This dependence of our whole banking system on the institutions in a few large cities, is not found in the laws of their organization, but in those of trade and exchange. The banks at that centre to which currency flows, and where it is required in payments for merchandise, hold the power of controlling those in regions whence it comes, while the latter possess no means of restraining them; so that the value of individual property, and the prosperity of trade, through the whole interior of the country, are made to depend on the flood or the management of the banking institutions in the great seats of trade on the seaboard.

But this chain of dependence does not stop here. It does not terminate at Philadelphia or New York. It reaches across the ocean, and ends in London, the centre of the credit system. The same laws of trade, which give to the banks in our principal cities power over the whole banking system of the United States, subject to the former, in their turn, to the money power in Great Britain. It is not denied that the suspension of the New York banks in 1837, which was followed in quick succession throughout the Union, was produced by an application of that power; and it is now alleged, in the extenuation of the present condition of so large a portion of our banks, that their embarrassments have arisen from the same cause.

From this influence they cannot now entirely escape, for it has its origin in the credit currencies of the two countries; it is strengthened by the current of trade and exchange, which centres in London, and is rendered almost irresistible by the large debts contracted there by our merchants, our banks, and our State. It is thus that an introduction of a new bank into the most distant of our villages, places the business of that village within the influence of the money power in England. It is thus that every debt which we contract in that country, seriously affects our own currency and extends over the pursuits of our citizens, its powerful influence. We cannot escape from this by making new banks, great or small, State or National. The same chains which bind those now existing to the centre of this system of paper credit, must equally fetter every similar institution we create. It is only by the extent to which this system has been pushed of late, that we have been made fully aware of its irresistible tendency to subject our own banks and currency to a vast controlling power in a foreign land; and it adds a new argument to those which illustrate their precarious situation. Endangered in the first place by their own mismanagement, and again by the conduct of every institution which connects them with the centre of trade in our own country, they are yet subjected, beyond all this, to the effect of whatever measure policy, necessity, or caprice may induce those who control the credits of England to resort to.

I mean not to comment upon these measures present or past, and much less to discourage the prosecution of a fair commercial dealing between the two countries, based on reciprocal benefits; but it having now been made manifest that the power of influencing these and similar injuries, is by the irresistible law of a credit currency and a credit trade, equally capable of extending their consequences through all the ramifications of our banking system, and by that means indirectly obtaining, particularly when our banks are used as depositories of the public moneys, a dangerous political influence in the United States, I have deemed it my duty to bring the subject to your notice and ask for your serious consideration.

Is an argument required beyond an exposition of these facts, to show the impropriety of using our banking institutions as depositories of the public money? Can we venture not only to encounter the risk of their individual and mutual mismanagement, but, at the same time, to place our foreign and domestic policy entirely under the control of a foreign and moneyed interest? To do so is to impair the independence of our Government, as the present credit system has already impaired the independence of our banks. It is to submit all its important operations, whether of peace or war, to be controlled or thwarted at first by our own banks, and then by a power almost greater than themselves. I cannot bring myself to depict the humiliation to which this Government and people might be sooner or later reduced, if the means for defending their rights are to be made dependent upon those who may have the most powerful motives to impair them.

Nor is it only in reference to the effect of this state of things on the independence of our Government or of our banks, that the subject presents itself for consideration; it is to be viewed also in its relations to the general trade of our country. The time is not long past, when a deficiency of foreign crops was thought to afford a profitable market for the surplus of our industry; but now we await with feverish anxiety the news of the English harvest, not so much from motives of commendable sympathy, but fearful lest its anticipated failures should narrow the field of credit there. Does not this speak volumes to the patriot? Can a system be beneficent, wise or just, which creates greater anxiety for interests dependent on foreign credit, than for the general prosperity of our own country and the profitable exportation of the surplus produce of our labor?

The circumstances to which I have thus adverted, appear to me to afford weighty reasons, developed by the events, to be added to those which I have on former occasions offered, when submitting to you better knowledge and discernment the propriety of separating the custody of the public money from banking institutions. Nor has any thing occurred to lessen, in my opinion, the force of what has been heretofore urged. The only ground on which that custody can be desired by the banks, is the profitable use which they may make of the money. Such use would be regarded in individuals as a breach of trust, or a crime of great magnitude, and yet it may be reasonably doubted whether, first and last, it is not attended with more mischievous consequences, when permitted to the former than to the latter. The practice of permitting the public money to be used by its keepers as here, is believed to be peculiar to this country, and to exist scarcely any where else. To procure it here, improper influences are appealed to; for invasions are established between the Government and vast numbers of powerful state institutions; other motives than the public good are brought to bear both on the Executive and Legislative departments, and selfish combinations, leading to special legislation, are formed. It is made the interest of banking institutions and their stockholders throughout the Union, to use their exertions for the increase of taxation and the accumulation of a surplus revenue; and, while an excuse is afforded, the means are furnished for those excessive issues which lead to extravagant trading and speculation, and are the forerunners of a vast debt abroad, and a suspension of the banks at home.

Impressed, therefore, as I am, with the propriety of the funds of the Government being withdrawn from the private use of either banks or individuals, and the public money kept by duly appointed public officers; and believing, as I do, that such also is the judgment which discussion, reflection and experience have produced on the public mind, I leave the subject with you. It is, at all events, essential to the interests of the community and the business of the Government, that a decision should be made.

Most of the arguments that dissuade us from employing banks in the custody and disbursement of the public moneys apply, with equal force, to the receipt of their notes for public dues. This difference is only in form. In one instance the government is a creditor for its deposits; and in the other for the notes it holds.—They afford the same opportunity for using the public money as, and equal, lead to all the evils attendant upon it, since a bank can as safely extend its discounts on a deposit of its notes in the hands of a public officer as on one made in its own vaults. On the other hand, it would give to the government no greater security; for, in case of failure, the claim of the noteholder would be no better than that of the depositor.

I am aware that the danger of inconvenience to the public and unreasonable pressure upon sound banks have been urged as objections to requiring the pay-

ment of revenue in gold and silver. These objections have been greatly exaggerated. From the best estimates we may safely fix the amount of specie in the country at eighty five millions of dollars, and the portion of that which would be employed at any one time in the receipts and disbursements of the Government, even if the proposed change were made at once, would not, it is now, after fuller investigation, believed, exceed four or five millions. If the change were gradual, sever 1 years would elapse before that sum would be required, with annual operations, in the mean time, to alter the law, should experience prove it to be oppressive or inconvenient. The portions of the community on whose business the change would operate, are comparatively small, nor is it believed that its effect would be in the least unjust or injurious to them.

In the payment of duties, which constitute by far the greater portion of the revenue, a very large proportion is derived from foreign commission houses and agents of foreign manufacturers, who sell the goods consigned to them, generally, at auction, and after paying the duties out of the avails, remit the rest abroad in specie or its equivalent. That the amount of duties, in such cases, be also retained in specie, can hardly be made a matter of complaint. Our own importing merchants, by whom the residue of the duties is paid, are not only peculiarly interested in maintaining a sound currency, which the measure in question will especially promote, but are, from the nature of their dealings, best able to know when specie will be needed, and to procure it with least difficulty or sacrifice. Residing, too, almost universally in places where the revenue is received, and where the drafts used by the Government for its disbursements must concentrate, they have every opportunity to obtain and use them in place of specie, should it be their interest or convenience. On the number of these drafts, and the facilities they may afford, as well as of the rapidity with which the public funds are drawn and disbursed, an idea may be formed from the fact that, of nearly twenty millions of dollars paid to collectors and receivers during the present year, the average amount in their hands at any one time has not exceeded a million and a half, and of the fifteen millions received by the collector of New York alone during the present year, the average amount held by him, subject to draft during each week, has been less than half a million.

The ease and safety of the operations of the Treasury in keeping the public money, are promoted by the application of its own drafts to the public dues. The objection arising from having them too long outstanding, might be obviated, and they yet made to afford merchants and banks holding them an equivalent for specie, and in that way greatly lessen the amount actually acquired. Still less inconvenience will attend the requirement of specie in purchases of public lands. Such purchases, except when made on speculation, are, in general, but single transactions, rarely repeated by the same person; and it is a fact, that for the last year and a half, during which the notes of sound banks have been received, more than a moiety of these payments has been voluntarily made in specie, being a larger proportion than would have been required in the former years under the graduation proposed.

It is moreover a principle, than which none is better settled by experience, that the supply of the precious metals will always be found adequate to the uses for which they are required. They abound in countries where no other currency is allowed. In our own States, where small notes are excluded, gold and silver supply their place. Which driven to the hiding places by bank suspensions, a little firmness in the community soon restores them in a sufficient quantity for ordinary purposes. Postage and other public dues have been collected in coin, without serious inconvenience, even in States where depreciated paper currency has existed for years, and this, with the aid of Treasury notes for a part of the time, was done without interruption during the suspension of 1837. At the present moment, the receipts and disbursements of the Government are made in legal currency in the largest portion of the Union—no one suggests a departure from this rule; and if it can now be successfully carried out, it will be surely attended with even less difficulty when bank notes are again redeemed in specie.

Indeed I cannot think that a serious objection would any where be raised to the receipt and payment of gold and silver in all public transactions, were it not from an apprehension that a surplus in the Treasury might withdraw a large portion of it from circulation, and lock it up unprofitably in the public vaults. It would not, in my opinion, be difficult to prevent such an inconvenience from occurring; but the authentic statements which I have already submitted to you in regard to the actual amount in the public Treasury at any one time during the period embraced in them, and the little probability of a different state of the Treasury for at least some years to come, seem to render it unnecessary to dwell upon it. Congress, moreover, as I have before observed, will in every year have an opportunity to guard against it, should the occurrence of any circumstances lead us to apprehend injury from this source. Viewing the subject in all its aspects, I cannot believe that any period will be more auspicious than the present for the adoption of all measures necessary to maintain the sanctity of our own engagements, and to aid in securing to the community that abundant supply of the precious metals which adds so much to their prosperity, and gives such increased stability to their dealings.

In a country so commercial as ours, banks in some form will probably always exist; but this serves only to render it the more incumbent on us, notwithstanding the discouragements of the past, to strive in our respective stations to mitigate the evils they produce—to take from them, as rapidly as the obligations of public faith and a careful consideration of the immediate interests of the community will permit, the unjust character of monopolies; to check, so far as may be practicable, by prudent legislation, these temptations of interest, and those opportunities for their dangerous indulgence, which beset them on every side, and to confine them strictly to the performance of their paramount duty, that of aiding the operations of commerce, rather than consulting their own exclusive advantage. These and other salutary reforms may, it is believed, be accomplished without the violation of any of the principles of the social compact, the observance of which is indispensable to its existence, or interfering in any way with the useful and profitable employment of real capital.

Institutions so framed have existed and still exist elsewhere, giving to commercial intercourse all necessary facilities, without inflating or depreciating the currency or stimulating speculation. Thus accomplishing their legitimate ends, they have gained the surest guarantee for their protection and encouragement in the good will of the community. Among a people so just as ours the same results could not

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